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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
LE PAGE, RICHARD, *et al.* ) Group Art Unit: 1637  
Serial Number: 09/769,736 ) Examiner: S. CHUNDURU  
Filed: January 26, 2001 )  
For: NUCLEIC ACIDS AND PROTEINS FROM  
GROUP B STREPTOCOCCUS

**Mail Stop Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Applicants respectfully request a two-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(2) for responding to the non-final Office Action mailed on March 31, 2004, in the above-captioned application. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the time for response be extended up to and including August 31, 2004. A check in the amount of \$210.00 is attached to cover the two-month extension of time fee for a small entity. In the event of any variance between the amount enclosed and the fees determined by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, please charge or credit any such variance to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0206.

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Responsive to the non-final Office Action mailed March 31, 2004, please amend the above-captioned application as set forth below.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.